INFORMATION BULLETIN

EDD Employment Development Department

State of California

JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT

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TO: SERVICE DELIVERY AREA ADMINISTRATORS
PRIVATE INDUSTRY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSONS
JTPD PROGRAM OPERATORS
EDD JOB SERVICE OFFICE MANAGERS
JTPD STAFF

SUBJECT: SDA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The minutes and agenda from the Service Delivery Area (SDA) Advisory Committee Meeting held as a conference call in Sacramento on Friday, May 7, 1999, are attached for your review and information. Please ensure that the minutes are provided to the appropriate staff.

If you have any questions regarding the minutes, please contact Jackie Owen at (916) 654-8006.

/S/ BILL BURKE
Assistant Deputy Director

Attachments

SERVICE DELIVERY AREA (SDA) ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONFERENCE CALL

Friday, May 7, 1999

Agenda

10:00 a.m.	**Hot Topics/Agenda Building**	**Bill Burke, Job Training Partnership Division (JTPD)**
10:15 a.m.	**Workforce Investment Act of 1998** • State Update	**Kathy Castillo, Workforce Investment Transition Office**
10:45 a.m.	**Welfare-to-Work Grant (WtW) Program** • State Update • SDA/County Welfare Department Advisory Group • WtW Policy Group	**Bill Burke, JTPD**
11:15 a.m.	**Agenda Building for the June 4, 1999, SDA/Employment Development Department Joint Quarterly Meeting**	**All**
11:30 a.m.	**Open Discussion**	**All**
Noon	**Conclude Conference Call**	

SERVICE DELIVERY AREA (SDA) ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Friday, May 7, 1999

Hot Topics — House Resolution 1482, amending the Welfare-to-Work (WtW) Grant program, is working its way through committee at the national level.

The Job Training Automation (JTA) Management Information Systems (MIS) User Group meetings will resume in mid-June, 1999.

Terry Smith Tatum, Merced County SDA, mentioned the need for a MIS/WtW User Group meeting. Deb Cusimano, Job Training Partnership Division (JTPD), acknowledged the need for such a meeting and responded that staff are working to incorporate into the JTA system the WtW reporting requirements released by the Department of Labor (DOL) on March 9, 1999. The revised JTA reporting system is scheduled for release on May 31, 1999.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998

State Update – John Bohart, Workforce Investment Transition Division, and Virginia Hamilton, California Workforce Association, reported on recent legislative activities pertaining to WIA. Senate Bill (SB) 43 (Johnston) and SB 146 (Solis) will be heard in the Appropriations Committee on May 17, 1999. It is uncertain whether these bills will be heard as urgency bills. According to Legislative Council staff, new boards or commissions cannot be created using urgency legislation.

The WtW Grant Program

State Update – Bob Hermsmeier, JTPD, reported that the Department of Finance has approved $7,500 per SDA in WtW State Approved Local Training (SALT) funds. The WtW subgrants are being modified to reflect the increase. The SALT funds will be used to conduct WtW capacity building activities. The State is not requiring modification of local plans but is requesting that the SDAs submit an expenditure report at the termination of SALT funding (July 2000). The second allocation of SALT funds ($7,500) will be available in July or August 1999.

The Employment Training Network (ETN) will be augmented with $200,000 of WtW funds and will be used for consultant services.

The Program Review Branch WtW review team has finalized their report identifying implementation barriers and best practices in the WtW program. The report may be

available for the June 4, 1999, SDA EDD Administrators' Joint Quarterly meeting. Barriers identified in the report pertain to client eligibility requirements, how to improve collaborative and cooperative relationships between SDAs and County Welfare Departments (CWD), technical issues regarding WtW reporting requirements, referral of participants, and confidentiality of client information.

The Department of Labor (DOL) Region IX recently completed a WtW program and fiscal review of several SDAs and the State. The review focused on identifying enrollment barriers and best practices. The report is targeted for release within a couple of weeks.

Dean Smith, State Job Training Coordinating Council (SJTCC), noted the concerns expressed by Council members at a recent SJTCC meeting. Members raised questions pertaining to WtW program expenditures versus program performance. The SJTCC will meet on June 25, 1999, and will continue discussion on this subject.

SDA/County Welfare Department Advisory Group – Bob Hermsmeier provided a high-level overview of the April 21, 1999, SDA/County Welfare Department Advisory Group meeting as follows:

- Ken Nather, Employment Training Panel (ETP), presented information on how ETP WtW funding dollars can be worked into local WtW programs.

- Pat Ainsworth, Department of Education, presented information on how to link education dollars for WtW services to clients.

- Victor Rae, Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, presented information on that Department's barriers to serving WtW clients.

- Bidders' conferences for the Governor's 15 Percent Special Projects Solicitation for Proposals are ongoing. Proposals are due to JTPD by June 30, 1999, 3 p.m. Grant awards will be announced in September.

- The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and DOL Region IX are in dialogue regarding WtW client eligibility documentation requirements.

WtW Policy Group – Bob Hermsmeier explained that the intent of the WtW Policy Group is to resolve high-level policy issues identified in the WtW Advisory Group meetings and provide policy clarification to the CWDs and the SDAs. The WtW Policy Group is comprised of representatives from the DOL, DHHS, California Department of Social Services (CDSS), and the Employment Development Department (EDD).

The WtW Policy Group met on April 21, 1999, and addressed the following items:

- Eligibility Policy: The WtW Policy Group discussed adding the following three items to the WtW Participant Eligibility Directive currently being written by JTPD staff.

  1. Directing SDAs to determine a method of assuring what is being used to determine eligibility in their local area.

2. Recruitment and potential eligibility of sanctioned individuals.

3. Identifying clients that can be enrolled any time within one year of leaving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) rolls under certain conditions.

- Client 18-24-month time limit: The CDSS is working on the question of what services can be provided to clients reaching the 18-24-month time limit and how those services relate to the client's status.

- Confidentiality: The WtW Policy Group agreed that it is within the discretion of the CWDs and the SDAs to determine in concert the extent of the need to know client eligibility information.

Agenda Building for the June 4, 1999, SDA/EDD Joint Quarterly Meeting

The following items were identified as possible items for the June 4, 1999, SDA/EDD Joint Quarterly meeting:

- Introduction of Michael Bernick, Director, EDD;
- WIA Activities: Reports from Workforce Development Branch, SJTCC, and CWA;
- The WtW Grant Program;
- Legislative Update; and
- WIA,Title I: To what extent does a comprehensive WIA system include Titles II, III, IV, and V.

Open Discussion

Keith Lee, San Bernardino County SDA, inquired about the status of the One-stop Collocation Facility Work Group. Established during the March 5, 1999, SDA Advisory Committee meeting, the purpose of the work group is to identify and mitigate barriers associated with the collocation lease process. It was agreed during that meeting that the SDAs or their designee would take lead. Bob Hermsmeier responded that the JTPD would follow up on the status.

In JTPD's follow up with Keith Lee, it was confirmed that the SDAs have the lead on this project to form the work group.

 The conference call concluded at 11:45 a.m.